

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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TAGS: UN, PFOR, SF, RH

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICA AND SOUTHERN RHODESIA

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY SOUTH AFRICA
MISSION, OCTOBER 29:

QUOTE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE ON BORDER DUTY 29 OCTOBER 1974

ALLEGATIONS HERE HAVE COMPLETELY MISREPRESENTED A RECENT
STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN MINISTER OF
POLICE CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE ON BORDER DUTY.

THE MINISTER'S STATEMENT CAN BY NO MEANS BE REGARDED AS
A STATEMENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON
RHODESIA BUT ON THE CONTRARY IT REFERRED SOLELY TO CHANGES
IN THE INTERNAL STRUCTURE OF THE POLICE FORCE.

WHEREAS PREVIOUSLY ANY MEMBER OF THE POLICE FORCE COULD BE
ASSIGNED TO SERVE ON THE BORDERS - NOT NECESSARILY RHODESIA -
NOW ONLY THOSE MEMBERS OF THE FORCE WHO VOLUNTEER FOR SERVICE
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ON THE BORDERS WILL BE SENT TO REPLACE POLICEMEN PRESENTLY

SERVING THERE - INCLUDING POLICEMEN SERVING IN RHODESIA.
THESE VOLUNTEER POLICEMEN WILL BE FORMED INTO A VOLUNTARY
CORPS OF SERVING POLICEMEN.

IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT:-

(A) THERE IS NO SUGGESTION WHATSOEVER THAT MEMBERS OF
THE PUBLIC ARE TO BE RECRUITED FOR THE CORPS;

(B) THIS STEP IN FACT REPRESENTS A LIMITATION OF ACTION
IN THAT ONLY VOLUNTEER POLICEMEN WILL HENCEFORTH BE USED;

(C) THE INTENTION IS TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF POLICE-
MEN SERVING ON THE BORDERS IN THE FUTURE. UNQUOTE

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